

Section of Hematology and Medical Oncology

Newsletter



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Featured Publication of the Month



Naomi Ko, MD
MPH AM

Dr. Naomi Ko and colleagues published a study in the JAMA Oncology titled "Association of Insurance Status and Racial Disparities With the Detection of Early-Stage Breast Cancer". [Read more here.](#)

This study was featured in the NIH Director's Blog. [Read more here](#)

Dr. Ko will also briefly present this work during Medical Grand Rounds' "Discovery of the Month" segment on Friday, May 15th.

Publications & Presentations



Martin Steinberg,
MD

[Dr. Martin Steinberg](#) published a commentary in the American Journal of Hematology titled "Treating sickle cell anemia: A new era dawns". [Read more here](#)

Dr. Steinberg and colleagues also published a correspondence in the American Journal of Hematology titled "Haptoglobin genotype predicts severe acute vaso-occlusive pain episodes in children with sickle cell anemia". [Read more here](#)



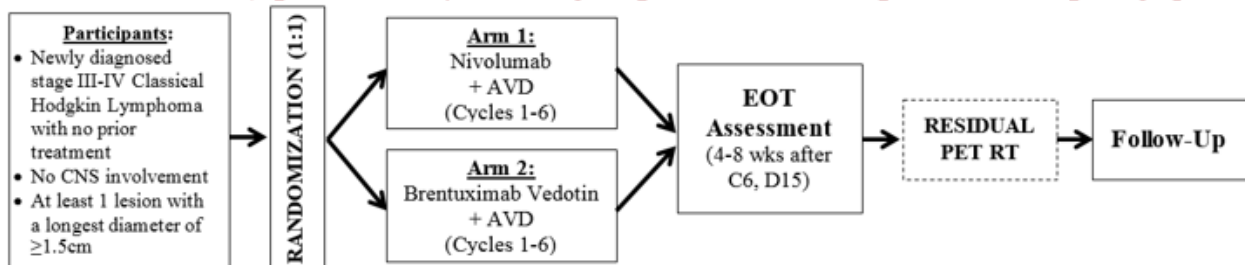
The results of a phase II clinical trial were published in the journal Blood:

Safety, Tolerability, and Response Rates of Daratumumab in Relapsed AL Amyloidosis: Results of a Phase II Study. [Sanchorawala V, Sarosiek S, Schulman A, Mistark M, Migre ME, Cruz R, Sloan JM, Brauneis D, Shelton AC.](#) Blood. 2020 Jan 24. [Read more here](#)

Newly Opened Cancer Clinical Trials

HODGKIN LYMPHOMA – 1st Line

S1826: A Phase III, Randomized Study of Nivolumab (Opdivo) Plus AVD or Brentuximab Vedotin (Adcetris) Plus AVD in Patients (Age \geq 12 Years) with Newly Diagnosed Advanced Stage Classical Hodgkin Lymphoma



ACS Pilot Grant Awardees

The national chapter of the ACS awarded Boston University a three-year Institutional Research Grant to encourage new investigators by providing pilot funds for cancer research. These funds make it possible for investigators to complete promising new projects and/or pursue novel ideas that will provide preliminary data for future grant applications from other agencies and programs.

The BU-BMC Cancer Center is pleased to announce the 3 recipients of the ACS Pilot Grant Awards for the 2020 cycle. Each project will receive \$30,000 in funding for a period of one year.



Chris Heaphy, PhD
Assistant Professor

"Modeling Alternative Lengthening of Telomeres (ALT) As A Distinct Molecular Subclass of Cancer"



Jessica L Petrick, PhD, MPH
Assistant Professor

"Helicobacter Pylori and Colorectal Cancer in African American Women"



Hadi T. Nia, PhD
Assistant Professor

"Tools for Probing Solid Stresses in Fibrotic Tumors"

New Faculty Announcement



Navid Alavi, MD

Dr. Navid Alavi will be our inpatient hospitalist starting this summer (date TBD). Dr. Alavi is currently Chief Resident in Internal Medicine at Howard University Hospital. He is very enthusiastic about the care of complex hematology and oncology patients, and has glowing references from mentors who have worked with him before and during residency training. He brings solid clinical research experience, most recently an ASCO abstract on racial disparities in cancer survival.



Tashia Prince-Lacombe, NP

Tashia Prince-Lacombe, NP will be joining the section of hematology/oncology June 1, 2020. Tashia worked as a nurse at the Carney Hospital in the emergency room, float pool and geriatric psych unit for 7 years. She then went back to school and is now a board certified nurse practitioner in geriatrics and did a post-masters in psychiatric nursing. She has been working as a nurse practitioner in primary care in Haverhill for the past 3.5 years, and also works per diem at the Shattuck Hospital.

She is very excited to come to Boston Medical Center where she will be providing further support to our growing hem/onc team.

Upcoming Events

Heme/Onc Research Seminar

Tuesday February 25th at 4PM – X715 (650 Albany Street, 7th floor)
basic and clinical research on display



Richard Giadone

Understanding cellular and molecular
mechanisms of hereditary
transthyretin amyloidosis
via induced pluripotent stem cells



Dr. Vaishali Sanchorawala, MD

Expanding therapeutic
landscape of AL amyloidosis



Amanda Schulman, BS, Master in Clinical Research candidate, and Clinical Research Coordinator in the Cancer & Hematology Clinical Research Program, will be presenting a poster from the accepted abstract, “Does Time to Diagnosis Affect Outcomes in AL Amyloidosis?” at the International Symposium on Amyloidosis March 1-5, 2020, for which she was awarded The Amyloidosis Foundation Junior Research Travel Award.

Announcements and Reminders

Medical Student Summer Research Program

Hematology-Oncology Faculty Mentors: did you know that you can have a highly motivated, funded and talented medical student working in your lab/group over the summer? The newly NIH funded Medical Student Summer Research Program provides mentored research experiences for first year B.U. medical students under the direction of a BUMC faculty member during the summer between the student's first and second year of medical school. For more information, [click here](#).

Mira Wagner worked with Kim Vanuytsel and George Murphy over the summer on her project: "Validation of Gene Editing Approaches to Cure Sickle Cell Disease (SCD) Using an iPSC Based Platform" and was selected to give an oral presentation of her work at the Annual Research Symposium. [Read more here](#)

BMC Provider Profile Update Form

If you would like to add updates to your BMC Provider Profile Page, please fill out the [form linked here](#).

New Form for Announcements and Newsletter Submissions

Are you interested in sharing news of your speaking engagements, awards, publications, events and other announcements with our section? Complete the intake form linked below and we will be happy to advertise your requests via email or the monthly section newsletter:

<http://www.bumc.bu.edu/hematology/2020/01/15/announcement-requests/>

Upcoming Lectures and Grand Rounds

- **February 19th** (Special Lecture) **Hussein Assi, M.D.** (Chief Fellow in Hematology/Oncology) Stephenson Cancer Center at the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center
- **February 20th** (Grand Rounds): **Dhvanit I. Shah, Ph.D.** (St. Baldrick's Foundation Scholar; Associate Professor of Pediatrics (Tenure-Track), Nationwide Children's Hospital & The Ohio State University College of Medicine Columbus, OH)
- **February 26th** (Wednesday, Special Lecture): **Suleiman Massarweh, M.D.** (Associate Professor of Medicine, Stanford University School of Medicine, Stanford, CA)
- **March 19th** (Grand Rounds): **Sendurai A. Mani, Ph.D.** (Professor, Department of Translational Molecular Pathology, MD Anderson Cancer Center; Co-Director, Metastasis Research Center Co-Director, Center for Stem Cell & Developmental Biology The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center)
- **March 26th** (Grand Rounds): **Ryan James Quinton (M.D./Ph.D.** student in Neil J. Ganem's lab) "Whole genome doubling confers unique genetic vulnerabilities on tumor cells"
- **April 16th** (Grand Rounds): **Alice Soragni, Ph.D.** (Assistant Professor, Department of Orthopaedic Surgery; Co-Director, Orthopedic Oncology Translational Research Lab, David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA)
- **June 11th** (Grand Rounds): **April Risinger, Ph.D.** (Assistant Professor/Research. Ph.D., Cell Biology. Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT). Cambridge, MA)

Available Career Opportunities as of October 2019:

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| • Fellowship Director | • Clinical Investigator, Breast Oncology | • Clinical Investigator, Head and Neck Oncology |
| • Clinical Director, Sickle Cell Center | • Clinical Investigator, Gastrointestinal Oncology | • Clinical Investigator, Thoracic Oncology |
| • Clinical Investigator, Hematology/Hematological Malignancies | • Clinical Investigator, Genitourinary Oncology | • Laboratory-Based Investigators – Molecular Oncology |
| | • Inpatient Hospitalist | |

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